

Claims

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A water dispersible granular agrochemical composition comprising a primary agrochemical active ingredient comprising a sulfonyl urea at a level of less than 50% by weight of the composition and a dispersing agent wherein at least one component of the composition is liquid the composition being obtainable by a process comprising preparing a wetted mix in the form of a free-flowing powder comprising the primary active ingredient and the dispersing agent and optionally other components and extruding the mix to form an extrudate and drying the extrudate to form granules.

SUB 2
A1
A composition according to claim 1 in which the primary active is a low use rate active ingredient.

A composition according to any one of the preceding claims in which the active ingredient is selected from bensulfuron-methyl, chlorsulfuron, cinosulfuron, metsulfuron-methyl, nicosulfuron, pirimisulfuron-methyl, rimsulfuron, sulfometuron-methyl, thifensulfuron-methyl, and triflurosulfuron-methyl.

4. A composition according to any one of the preceding claims in which the primary active ingredient is present at a level of less than 30% by weight of the composition.

5. A composition according to any one of the preceding claims in which the active ingredient comprises bensulfuron-methyl and/or chlorsulfuron.

6. A composition according to claim 5 comprising bensulfuron-methyl at a level of less than 10% by weight of the composition.

SUB 2
A1
A composition according to any one of the preceding claims further comprising a high use rate secondary active ingredient.

8. A composition according to claim 7 in which the secondary active ingredient is present at a level greater than the level of the primary active ingredient.

SUB 2
A1
A composition according to any one of claims 7 or 8 in which the secondary active is present at a level of at least 30%.

10. A composition according to any one of claims 7 to 9 in which the high use rate secondary active ingredient is selected from abamectin, atrazine, benomylbentazone, bifenox, bromoxynil, captan, carbendazim, chloridazon, chlorothalonil, chlortoluron, lambda-cyhalothrin, cyhexatin, cymoxynil, alpha-cypermethrin, deltamethrin, dimethomorph, diuron, ethofumesate, fibronil, flurtamone, glyphosate, imazamethabenz-methyl, imazapyr,

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imazethapyr, imadacloprid, isoproturon, linuron, mancozeb, maneb, metamitron, methiocarb, metribuzin, milbectin, oxadixyl, oxyfluorfen, phenmedipham, propanil, propyzamide, simazine, thifensulfuron-methyl and thiram.

11. A composition according to claim 10 in which the secondary active ingredient comprises propanil.
12. A composition according to claim 11 in which the propanil is present at a level of at least 50% by weight of the composition.
13. A composition according to any one of the preceding claims in which the dispersing agent comprises an anionic and/or nonionic surfactant.
14. A composition according to claim 13 in which the dispersing agent is selected from alkali metal salts of lignosulphonates, naphthalene sulphonate formaldehyde condensates, tristyrylphenol ethoxylate phosphate esters, aliphatic alcohol ethoxylates, alkylphenol ethoxylates, ethylene oxide/propylene oxide (EO-PO) block copolymers, "comb" graft copolymers and polyvinyl alcohol-vinyl acetate copolymers.
15. A composition according to any one of the preceding claims in which the weight ratio of dispersing agent to the low use rate primary active ingredient in the composition is 0.1 to 10:1.
16. A composition according to claim 16 in which the weight ratio of dispersing agent to the low use rate primary active ingredient in the composition is 0.4 to 6:1.
17. A composition according to any one of the preceding claims comprising, as the low use rate active, bensulfuron-methyl and further comprising propanil.
18. A composition according to claim 17 in which bensulfuron-methyl is present at a level of less than 1% by weight of the composition and propanil is present at a level of more than 50% by weight of the composition.
19. Use of a composition according any one of the preceding claims as an agrochemical.
20. A method of treating a plant by applying a herbicidally effective amount of a composition according any one of claims 1 to 18 to the plant or to the locus of the plant to be treated.
21. A method according to claim 20 in which the composition is mixed with a liquid carrier and applied to the plant or the locus of the plant.
22. A method according to any one of claims 20 or 21 in which the primary active is applied to the plant or the locus of the plant at a rate of use of less than 50 g/hectare.

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- Sub 23. A method according to any one of claims 20 to 22 in which the composition comprises, as a secondary active ingredient, propanil and the secondary active is applied to the plant or the locus of the plant at a rate of use of less than 7000g/hectare.
24. A process for the production of a composition according to any one of claims 1 to 18 comprising preparing a wetted mix in the form of a free-flowing powder comprising a primary active ingredient and a dispersing agent and optionally other components wherein at least one component of the composition is liquid and extruding the mix to form an extrudate and drying the extrudate to form granules.
25. A process according to claim 24 which comprises preparing a pre-mix comprising a secondary active ingredient and combining the pre-mix with the dispersing agent and the primary active ingredient to form the mix for extrusion.
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